

The Governor's Plan Is

COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE

WE'RE MAKING PROGRESS

In 2009, Governor Martin O'Malley and Maryland's General Assembly charged the State with developing and implementing a plan to reduce Maryland's Greenhouse Gas emissions 25 percent by 2020. In implementing its recently finalized plan, the O'Malley Brown Administration is committed to making the smartest, most effective environmental and economic decisions possible.



PROGRESS:

As of 2011, the Greenhouse gas emissions in Maryland have decreased 5% since 2006.

PROGRESS:

Greenhouse gas emissions in Maryland have decreased 14% versus "business as usual" projections since 2011.

THERE'S MORE WORK TO DO

As the State's Plan progresses, the goal of reducing emissions 25 percent is attainable by strengthening and building on current programs, and by incorporating cutting-edge technology and strategies. The enhancement and implementation of the Plan's key programs will drive more than 80 percent of Maryland's greenhouse gas emissions reductions.



MARYLAND RENEWABLE ENERGY PORTFOLIO STANDARD

The Maryland Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard will establish a market for new sources of renewable electricity generation, located mostly in-state. The law requires that Maryland power providers supply 18% of electricity by renewable sources by 2020.



EmPOWER MARYLAND

Enacted in 2008, The EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act set a target to reduce both Maryland's per capita total electricity consumption and peak load demand by 15 percent by 2015. EmPOWER includes State- and utility-managed energy efficiency and conservation programs.



ZERO WASTE

Zero waste is a concept that calls for the near-elimination of solid waste sent to landfills or incinerators for disposal. Instead, the vast majority of Maryland's solid waste will be reused, recycled, composted, or prevented through source reduction.



CLEAN CARS

The Maryland Clean Cars Program adopts California's stricter vehicle emission standards and directly regulates carbon dioxide emissions. These standards became effective in Maryland for model year 2011 vehicles, significantly reducing a number of emissions including volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxides.



REGIONAL GREENHOUSE GAS INITIATIVE

The RGGI is a cooperative effort by nine Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states to design and implement a regional power plant emissions cap-and-trade program. Revenues from the program support energy efficiency programs and augment EmPOWER Maryland and the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard.